



Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds
San Wong, Director

JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL IOWA TASK FORCE FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Mission: Promoting innovative female responsive techniques through education and advocacy

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Polk County River Place, Room 3A
2309 Euclid Ave.
Des Moines, Iowa

August 7, 2015

Present: Jennifer Tibbetts, Chair; Linda Bisgaard; Kristen Corey for Sanjita Pradhan; Andrea Dickerson; Lori Rinehart;

Others: Stephanie Hernandez; Danielle Masten; Marissa Finn

Staff: Steve Michael; Kathy Nesteby; Julie Rinker

Introductions/Announcements

Jennifer Tibbetts, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

Review of minutes

The minutes from the May meeting were accepted as presented.

June Meeting with Meda Chesney-Lind

Tibbetts led a discussion regarding a meeting with Dr. Meda Chesney-Lind of the University of Hawaii that took place on June 15. Chesney-Lind was in Des Moines to present information at the judges' conference. The meeting hosted by the ITFYW was held to hear a presentation from Chesney-Lind and to discuss the development of an Iowa model/continuum of care to better address the needs of delinquent girls. The meeting included representatives from the Department of Human Services, Disability Rights Iowa, detention, Juvenile Court Services and State Court Administration. Those in attendance recognized the need for a continuum of care for girls since the closing of the girls' state training school in January, 2014. There is concern that since that time, delinquent girls have been sent out of state, waived to the adult system, or aged out without adequate treatment and there is evidence that detention stays for young women have been increasing in length. Chesney-Lind offered her expertise regarding elements of a model plan. She noted the importance of involving representatives from a variety of agencies. Once completed, Iowa would be the first state to have a fully integrated female-responsive system in place.

Iowa Girls Justice Initiative grant

- **August 10-12 orientation**

Tibbetts provided an update on the Iowa Girls Justice Initiative (IGJI) grant award to fund the development of an innovative plan for deep-end delinquent girls. The applicant and fiscal agent is the Friends of the Iowa Commission on the Status of Women. The grant was awarded through the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's National Girls Initiative. Iowa was one of three states (Iowa, Connecticut, and California) to receive the award. A total of 77 applications were submitted. The time frame encompasses twelve-months of planning and six-months of implementation. Because of the elapsed time to remedy contract technicalities, the project has experienced a delay in getting underway.

The Iowa Task Force for Young Women membership will be expanded and will serve as the collaborative team to develop the plan. A facilitator will be hired and meetings will be more frequent. Data will include identification of current services and gaps, barriers, and capacity. The plan will include relevant findings/recommendations and identify strategies to improve the level of care and quality of services for young women under juvenile court jurisdiction.

Tibbetts and Kathy Nesteby will be attending a required orientation meeting next week in Portland, OR regarding the innovation award. They will be presenting about the needs of Iowa girls, proposed scope of work, intended outcomes, sustainability, and training/technical assistance needs.

Nesteby asked if members had additional issues/suggestions. Bisgaard provided data specific to Iowa girls from the Girl Scouts Research Institute. Other suggestions included more programs surrounding in-home and day treatment, mental health, trauma, self-medication/substance abuse, aftercare services, Multi-Dimensional Family Therapy, youth transition services, and United Way representation. More information will be shared on a continuous basis.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Council Update

Steve Michael provided an overview of the JJDP Act funding for the upcoming federal fiscal year. Although funding has decreased over the past few years, it remained steady this year and, as in the past, will be shared with the eight judicial districts and this subcommittee.

The Task Force has a budget of \$25,000 for staff support and activities. Once the IGJI grant is finalized, the award is \$100,000. Nesteby suggested Task Force and IGJI related meetings be clearly and separately identified to demonstrate the use of the two funding streams.

Tibbetts reminded members of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Council (JJAC) and Task Force goals and objectives which include Evidence-based Practices, Gender Equity, DMC, Mental Health/Substance Abuse/Brain Development, and Compliance Monitoring. She would like to develop realistic deadlines to accomplish the goals and objectives of the Task Force.

Progress and Planning for Goal and Objectives

- Deadlines for Action Steps

Tibbetts asked members to review the actions steps to identify deadlines for completion. She suggested highlighting the areas that have been completed. The following items were discussed:

Obj 1, Action Step 1—Meet with key legislators: Rather than meeting individually, it was suggested to meet as a group with legislators. A legislative breakfast was recommended. Nesteby suggested identifying legislators to serve as members for the grant.

Obj 1, Action Step 6—Talking points for position paper: The position paper and talking points will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Obj 2, Action Step 1: Determine website content and potential usage of social media: A discussion regarding website/social media content will be further reviewed at the next meeting.

Obj 2, Action Step 5—Put DMC on each agenda: Michael reported that the NAACP is holding a DMC summit on August 28-29. The summit focuses on justice for women. Tibbetts asked if there was an opportunity to have a Task Force presence (table or attendance) and/or collaborate on it. Nesteby will look into the matter.

Obj 3—Pursue new research/data as well as analyze and link existing research/data regarding juvenile females in the justice system:

Action Step 2: Monitor JJDP Act reauthorization for necessary reaction: Michael provided information on conference calls with U.S. Senator Charles Grassley regarding reauthorization of the JJDP Act. Senator Grassley serves as Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill has moved out of committee and is scheduled for a vote in the Senate.

Action Step 3: Use results from SPEP data involving gender & race: Nesteby reviewed the SPEP (Standardized Program Evaluation Protocol) tool used to evaluate youth programs likelihood for reducing recidivism. A dispositional matrix is being developed for use by juvenile court officials in referring low, medium, or high-risk youth to corresponding programming. A representative from Florida who helped develop its state matrix met with an Iowa delegation in the late spring. The matrix will encompass both race and gender.

Using the SPEP tool, program evaluations have included analysis on race, ethnicity, and gender which helps to identify programming that works best for these groups. More information will be shared as the project continues. Nesteby will also look at data relative to single gender services.

Other Business

Tibbetts asked for a brief discussion regarding website content. The following ideas were suggested:

- A link to the Juvenile Justice Information Exchange
- Position paper
- Protocol for female responsive services
- Community update/blog
- Training videos
- Calendar – agenda, minutes
- Membership list
- Links to member websites
- Blog spot/Girl Connections
- Photo gallery
- Links to resources
- Images showing race/ethnicity
- Links to Task Force-related social media sites—Facebook, Twitter
- Mission statement, goals and objectives
- Quotes

Tibbetts asked members to take note of other ideas when browsing the web and share suggestions with her or at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary
Iowa Department of Human Rights
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning